

House Bill 1633

By: Representatives Massey of the 24th, Westmoreland of the 86th, Buck of the 112th, White of the 3rd, Post 2, Franklin of the 17th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions relative to state government, so as to make a legislative finding; to provide
3 that documents and symbols containing religious teachings may be displayed in any public
4 facility in the state; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
8 provisions relative to state government, is amended by inserting at the end thereof the
9 following:

10 "50-1-8.

11 (a) The General Assembly finds that the tenth amendment to the United States
12 Constitution reserves to the states or to the people any power not delegated to the United
13 States through the duly ratified Constitution. The General Assembly finds that there is no
14 such delegation of power to the federal government to prevent the several states from
15 publically declaring the religious beliefs of the electors. The General Assembly therefore
16 finds that as the legislative body elected by the people of this state, it has the power to
17 authorize the display and teaching of such religious content and symbols in public forums
18 in this state as it may deem appropriate.

19 (b) It shall be lawful for the state, any state agency and authority, and any political
20 subdivision of the state to display the Ten Commandments found in Christian and Jewish
21 scriptures; the first sentence of the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence,
22 which states, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that
23 they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are
24 Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness'; and the national motto, which reads, 'In God
25 We Trust'; and such similar documents as may be desired."

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SECTION 2.

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All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.